

16 May.

Vernonport.
Good Evening,

R. Moore

It would do us
all a lot of good if we became
a nation of teachers. I don't,
of course, mean school teachers -
I realize that there are not so
many people who like that
sort of life. What I mean is
that a very large number
of people in the country ought
to know something about
adult education. Some people
have a queer idea of what
adult education is all about.
They imagine a group of
men and women well trained
in the subject addressing small
gatherings of town and country
people on subjects such as
"Citizenship", "Community develop-

ment" and of course "drama".
But this isn't adult education.
This is window dressing.

What I mean by adult education is best summed up in the old formula "each one teach one". We've got a fair number of highly educated people in this country. But not many of them pass on their ideas to others less well educated. And when you ask them why they give you a very realistic answer - they say that teaching adults is not easy - some have really tried and ^{have} run into all sorts of difficulties. But we've got to get round these difficulties. It is far

It - ~~the means to~~ independence without a lot of adult education will prove a hazardous business.

It seems to me that the University of Guyana can supply the answer to this problem. A study of the principles and techniques of Adult education ought to be on the curriculum and all students should be made to do it. Whether a chap is going to be a civil servant, an agricultural officer or an engineer, he should be made to realise at University level how deficient it is to communicate ideas. Two excellent results will come from this. In the first

place. Educated people will stop making the most elementary mistakes in communicating with people who haven't had their educational advantage. Secondly once educated people achieve even a small measure of success in passing on their ideas, you will find what people have found elsewhere, that the desire to go on teaching at an adult level gains a certain momentum. When for instance you find the engineer not only building bridges and constructing dams but holding sessions with his workmen to explain how the local projects fit in with the over-all development of the

working - and when his workmen
begin on the basis of their new
understanding to make comments
and even criticism - then you
people have begun their edu-
cation.

But you don't only want
people who know something
about adult education. You
want people who know some-
thing about the mass media.
Television will soon be here.
Before it comes we need
to be educated to use it
properly and not merely as
a medium of low level enter-
tainment. Perhaps here too
the University can help.
If a ^{research} department on mass
media in Geneva is set up
then at least there will

be a corps of people who
will insist and ensure that
it be used properly. With
a combination of good television
and a large group of
~~educated~~ people who know
something about adult edu-
cation. Democracy will
begin to mean something
in Guyana.

am